

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A picture material editing apparatus comprising:

means for inputting multiple picture materials from multiple sources,

picture material switching means having a switcher function of switching and outputting multiple picture materials ~~inputted from multiple sources~~ at an arbitrary timing; and

edit list creation means for creating an edit list based on a switching operation for switching the multiple picture materials with the switcher function.

Claim 2 (Original): The picture material editing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein

the edit list creation means creates the edit list simultaneously with the switching operation for switching the multiple picture materials by using the switcher function.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The picture material editing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein

the edit list creation means creates the edit list based on the kind of special effect specified when the picture materials are switched and various setting information is provided for the kind of special effect specified in addition to the switching operation.

Claim 4 (Original): The picture material editing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein,

when the picture material switching means executes edit processing of connecting highlight scenes of the multiple picture materials as the switching operation,

the edit list creation means creates a digest-version edit list corresponding to the edit processing.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A picture material editing method comprising:
inputting multiple pictures from multiple sources,

a picture material switching step of switching multiple picture materials ~~inputted from multiple sources~~ via picture material switching means having a switcher function, at an arbitrary timing; and

an edit list creation step of creating an edit list based on a switching operation for switching the multiple picture materials performed at the picture material switching step.

Claim 6 (Original): The picture material editing method according to Claim 5, wherein,

at the edit list creation step,

the edit list is created simultaneously with the switching operation for switching the multiple picture materials by using the switcher function.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The picture material editing method according to Claim 5, wherein,

at the edit list creation step, the edit list is created based on the kind of special effect specified when the picture materials are switched and various setting information is provided for the kind of special effect specified in addition to the switching operation.

Claim 8 (Original): The picture material editing method according to Claim 5, wherein,

when edit processing of connecting highlight scenes of the multiple picture materials is executed as the switching operation at the picture material editing step,

a digest-version edit list is created based on the edit processing at the edit list creation step.